

CONDEMNING REMARKS MADE BY FORMER MISSISSIPPI GOVERNOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my disappointment in Former Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour's offensive remarks regarding President Barack Obama. On a post-election conference call Barbour referred to President Obama's policies as "tar baby."

Although some may feel as though Barbour's remarks were a "slip of the tongue" or not offensive I, as an African American who has been the recipient of such references find such remarks reprehensible.

As the former governor of a state such as Mississippi, Barbour's remarks were particularly degrading to those citizens who still remember being raised in an era of extreme racial criticism and hatred. Remarks such as these demonstrate a lack of racial sensitivity and foster a culture of prejudice.

Mr. Speaker, I am highly offended by Barbour's comments and am offended by his insensitivity.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH AN- NIVERSARY OF THE SPIRIT OF SPRINGFIELD

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Spirit of Springfield. Since incorporated on December 21, 1989, the Spirit of Springfield has entertained approximately eight million area residents and visitors with events that bring the community together in celebration and provide community vitality. These events currently include the World's Largest Pancake Breakfast, Spirit of Springfield Golf Classic, MassMutual Star Spangled Springfield, Tower Square Parade of the Big Balloons, City of Bright Nights Ball, Bright Nights at Forest Park and annual free holiday concert by the 215th Army Band of the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

Bright Nights at Forest Park is the largest event the Spirit of Springfield presents and it is in conjunction with the Springfield Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management. The three-mile drive through magnificent lighting displays has been honored by the American Bus Association as one of the Top 100 Attractions in North America for multiple years. 2014 marks the event's 20th season.

The Spirit of Springfield is also pleased to provide event services to the City of Springfield for events that include the mayoral inaugurations, building dedications, swearing-in ceremonies, police academy graduations and September 11th Remembrance Ceremony.

To produce the events, the non-profit organization, which is governed by a Board of Directors and employs three full time employees, raises approximately \$450,000 in corporate contributions and an additional \$450,000 in

donated goods and services. The magic is all made by three full-time employees, college interns, volunteers and a dedicated board of directors.

Mr. Speaker, as a longtime supporter of the Spirit of Springfield, I am very proud to congratulate them on their 25th anniversary and wish them many more years of success with their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING FORT BEND COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMIS- SIONER FOR RECEIVING AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fort Bend County Road and Bridge Commissioner Marc Grant for receiving the first ever Road Administrator of the Year Award from the Texas Association of County Engineers and Road Administrators.

This award recognizes the technical and professional contributions of those who ensure the safety of Texas's critical infrastructure. For 14 years, Grant has admirably served the county by managing the maintenance and safety of Fort Bend County's roads and bridges. Strong leadership ensures that this infrastructure allows all of us to safely commute in a highly congested area.

I thank Marc Grant for his exemplary public service. Through his position, he has supported the growth of our county and has expanded opportunity for so many businesses and families in our community. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, we again congratulate Marc Grant for receiving the 2014 Road Administrator of the Year Award.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER REPRESENTATIVE LANE EVANS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, last week we lost a dear friend and a distinguished former Member of this House.

Lane Evans ably served the people of Illinois's 17th District for 24 years. He had been a public interest lawyer and a Marine veteran when he took office in 1983, and he got right to work fighting for his constituents by standing up for workers' rights, pushing for better care and benefits for those who had served in uniform, and advocating for greater opportunities for middle class families.

Lane was known as a champion of constituent services, helping northwestern Illinoisans get the help they needed from federal agencies and ensuring that casework was processed quickly and effectively. And America's veterans will always remember him for his work on behalf of those suffering from exposure to Agent Orange and those disfigured by land mines. When the Rock Island Arsenal faced cuts and closure 10 years ago, he fought with tenacity and determination to keep it open and save jobs across his district.

Lane was a self-described populist, someone who always put his fight for the common men and women of America first. He always kept faith with those he served, even after receiving the difficult diagnosis of Parkinson's disease in 1995. While his Parkinson's grew worse, Lane only grew more determined to achieve a better future for his constituents and his country. All of us who served with him were awed by his strength in body and in character as he faced that challenge with grace and resolve.

I join with the many whose lives he touched and made better throughout Illinois and across the country in paying tribute to Lane Evans and his legacy. I want to thank Representative CHERI BUSTOS for organizing this special order in Lane's memory and for carrying his work forward in Illinois's 17th District.

The people of Illinois and the United States—and the Members of this House—will not forget Lane Evans, his work, and his unwavering commitment to serving the country and community he so loved.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVER- SARY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESPONSE

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20th Anniversary of Behavioral Health Response. BHR is a nonprofit organization, established in 1994, that provides free 24-hour access to behavioral health services for the citizens of the Eastern Region of Missouri by equipped mental health professionals. BHR continues to play a crucial role in Missouri's behavioral healthcare system.

BHR serves as a prominent asset to the behavioral health community through its cooperation with hospitals, community mental health centers, police officers, and other community organizations. They also provide prompt and constant accessibility by means of private telephone counseling and mobile outreach services. In addition, BHR uses a strategic system of careful administrative work, compassionate calls, and courteous follow-up calls to ensure respect and high-performance for the citizens. BHR complements the efficient and effective deliverance of high-quality healthcare services and largely contributes to the well-being of the residents of Missouri.

For the critical contributions Behavioral Health Response has made to the behavioral healthcare system in Missouri, it is my pleasure to recognize the 20th Anniversary of Behavioral Health Response in the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISH- MENTS OF JOSE ALTUVE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the millions of Astros fans in Houston and Texas and throughout the